ALBERTA LABOUR FORCE PROFILES

# Aged 45 and Older

# 2012

# Highlights

## 1. Population of Albertans Aged 45 and Older

- At 45.4%, Alberta had the lowest proportion of people aged 45 and older in its working age population in Canada in 2012.
- The number of Albertans aged 45 and older increased by 40.6% between 2002 and 2012.

## 2. Labour Force Statistics of Albertans Aged 45 and Older

- In 2012, 39.2% of Alberta's labour force was aged 45 and older.
- At 63.4%, Albertans aged 45 and older had the highest labour force participation rate among the provinces.
- The employment rate of Albertans aged 45 and older was the highest in the country.
- The unemployment rate for Albertans aged 45 and older was lower than the rate for all Albertans.

## 3. Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Industry

- In 2012, 71.8% of Albertans aged 45 and older were employed in the Services-Producing sector.
- Of all Albertans employed in the Agricultural industry, 61.2% were aged 45 and older.

## 4. Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Occupation

- Sales and service; Business, finance and administration; Trades, transport and equipment operators; and Management occupations employed 68.2% of Albertans aged 45 and older.
- Higher proportions of Albertans aged 45 and older than Alberta's working age population were employed in the following occupations: Management; Business, finance and administration; and Unique to primary industry.

## 5. Educational Levels of Alberta's Labour Force Aged 45 and Older

- The percentage of Alberta's labour force aged 45 and older with at least a university degree was 23.3% in 2012.
- The number of Albertans aged 45 and older in the labour force with at least a high school diploma increased by 284,400, or 57% during the past decade.

## 1. Population of Albertans Aged 45 and Older

For the purpose of this profile, working age population (WAP) refers to people who are 15 years and older (please refer to the Appendix for definitions of labour force terms).

Alberta had the lowest proportion of people aged 45 and older in its working age population in 2012 at 45.4%, up from 40.8% in 2002 (Figure 1). Newfoundland and Labrador had the highest proportion at 57.1%.

**Figure 1**

**Number and Per cent of People Aged 45 and Older, Canada and Provinces, 2002 and 2012**

| | 2002 | | | 2012 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Working Age Population (15+ years) | Number of People Aged 45 and Older (45+ years) | % Working Age Population (45+ years) | Working Age Population (15+ years) | Number of People Aged 45 and Older (45+ years) | % Working Age Population (45+ years) |
| **Canada** | **24,785,900** | **11,262,300** | **45.4%** | **28,314,700** | **14,570,900** | **51.5%** |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 426,700 | 200,700 | 47.0% | 427,700 | 244,100 | 57.1% |
| Prince Edward Island | 108,700 | 51,700 | 47.6% | 120,500 | 66,800 | 55.4% |
| Nova Scotia | 747,800 | 360,700 | 48.2% | 780,300 | 439,700 | 56.4% |
| New Brunswick | 601,500 | 286,200 | 47.6% | 620,400 | 349,600 | 56.4% |
| Quebec | 5,989,500 | 2,823,300 | 47.1% | 6,637,400 | 3,546,500 | 53.4% |
| Ontario | 9,587,300 | 4,264,300 | 44.5% | 11,069,700 | 5,626,300 | 50.8% |
| Manitoba | 867,500 | 403,900 | 46.6% | 963,100 | 487,500 | 50.6% |
| Saskatchewan | 744,300 | 351,100 | 47.2% | 811,000 | 412,900 | 50.9% |
| Alberta | 2,428,300 | 991,000 | 40.8% | 3,069,900 | 1,393,300 | 45.4% |
| British Columbia | 3,284,200 | 1,529,400 | 46.6% | 3,814,700 | 2,004,100 | 52.5% |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

Albertans aged 45 to 54 accounted for 18.1% of the population in 2012, the same as in 2002 (Figure 2). Those aged 55 to 64 years were 14.1% of Alberta's working age population in 2012 compared to 10.6% in 2002. Albertans aged 65 years and over accounted for 13.2% of Alberta's population in 2012 compared to 12.1% in 2002.

**Figure 2**

**Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Age Group, 2002 and 2012**

| | 2002 | | 2012 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | % of WAP | Number | % of WAP |
| **45 years and over** | **991,000** | **40.8%** | **1,393,200** | **45.4%** |
| 45-54 years | 439,300 | 18.1% | 555,700 | 18.1% |
| 55-64 years | 257,600 | 10.6% | 433,200 | 14.1% |
| 65+ years | 294,100 | 12.1% | 404,300 | 13.2% |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

Alberta's working age population in 2002 was over 2.4 million (Figure 3). By 2012, it had increased by 26.4% to just over 3.0 million. In the last 10 years, Canadians aged 45 and older increased by 29.4%, or approximately 3.3 million people. Albertans aged 45 years and over accounted for 12.2% of the total Canadian increase within this age group.

The growth rate of Albertans aged 45 and older was 11.2 percentage points higher than the growth rate of Canadians aged 45 and older. During the past 10 years, Albertans aged 45 and older increased by 40.6%, compared to Canada's 29.4%. However, Alberta's working age population increased by 26.4% over this period compared to the increase of 14.2% for Canada's working age population over the same period.

**Figure 3**

| Working Age Population (15+ years), Canada and Alberta, 2002 and 2012 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **2002** | **2012** | **Growth** | **% Growth** |
| **Canadians** | **24,785,900** | **28,314,700** | **3,528,800** | **14.2%** |
| Canadians Aged 45 and Older | 11,262,300 | 14,570,900 | 3,308,600 | 29.4% |
| **Albertans** | **2,428,300** | **3,069,900** | **641,600** | **26.4%** |
| Albertans Aged 45 and Older | 991,000 | 1,393,300 | 402,300 | 40.6% |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

The population of Albertans aged 55-64 increased by 68.2% over the ten-year period compared to 26.5% for the 45-54 year olds and 37.5% for those aged 65 and over (Figure 4).

**Figure 4**

| Growth of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Age Group, 2002 and 2012 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **2002** | **2012** | **Growth** | **% Growth** |
| **45+ years** | **991,000** | **1,393,300** | **402,300** | **40.6%** |
| 45-54 years | 439,300 | 555,700 | 116,400 | 26.5% |
| 55-64 years | 257,600 | 433,200 | 175,600 | 68.2% |
| 65+ years | 294,100 | 404,300 | 110,200 | 37.5% |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

## 2. Labour Force Statistics of Albertans Aged 45 and Older

In 2012, Albertans aged 45 years and older accounted for 39.2% of the provincial labour force and 33.2% of those who were unemployed. (Figure 5)

**Figure 5**

| Labour Force Statistics of Albertans Aged 45 and Older, 2012 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **Albertans (15+ Years)** | **Albertans (45+ years)** | **% of Albertans Aged 45 and Older** |
| Working Age Population | 3,069,900 | 1,393,300 | 45.4% |
| Labour Force | 2,253,500 | 882,900 | 39.2% |
| Employment | 2,149,600 | 848,400 | 39.5% |
| Unemployment | 103,800 | 34,500 | 33.2% |
| Participation Rate | 73.4% | 63.4% | --- |
| Employment Rate | 70.0% | 60.9% | --- |
| Unemployment Rate | 4.6% | 3.9% | --- |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

In 2012, Albertans aged 45-54 years had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.7% (Figure 6). However, they had the highest participation and employment rates when compared to those aged 55-64 years and the 65 and older age groups.

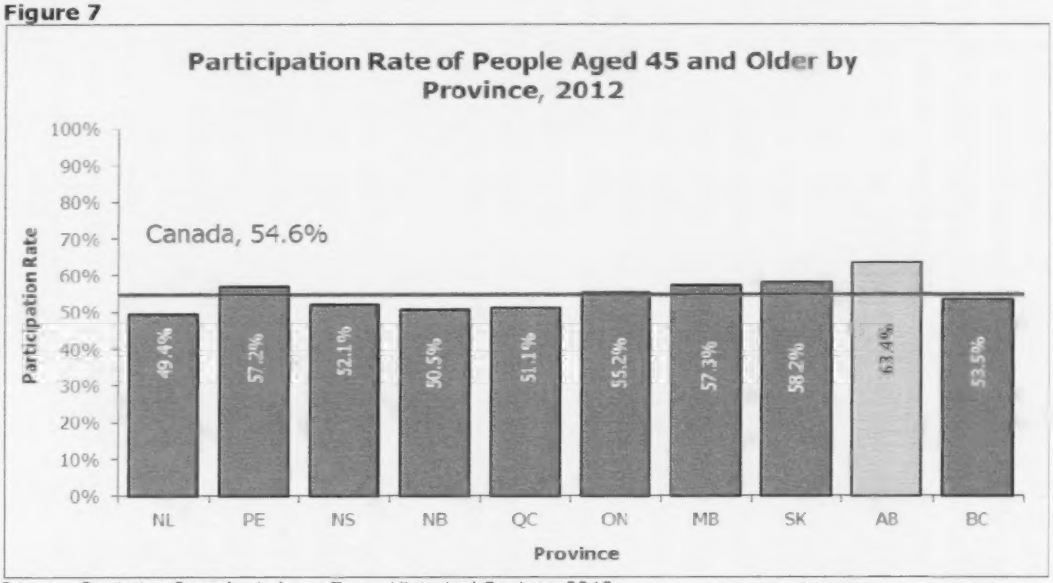
**Figure 6**

| Labour Force Characteristics of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Age Group, 2012 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **45+ years** | **45-54 years** | **55-64 years** | **65+ years** |
| Working Age Population | 1,393,300 | 555,700 | 433,200 | 404,300 |
| Labour Force | 882,900 | 490,900 | 314,500 | 77,600 |
| Employment | 848,400 | 472,600 | 301,300 | 74,400 |
| Unemployment | 34,500 | 18,400 | 13,100 | 3,100 |
| Participation Rate | 63.4% | 88.3% | 72.6% | 19.2% |
| Employment Rate | 60.9% | 85.0% | 69.6% | 18.4% |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.9% | 3.7% | 4.2% | 4.0% |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

Albertans aged 45 and older had the highest participation rate in Canada at 63.4% (Figure 7). This was 8.8 percentage points higher than the national average.

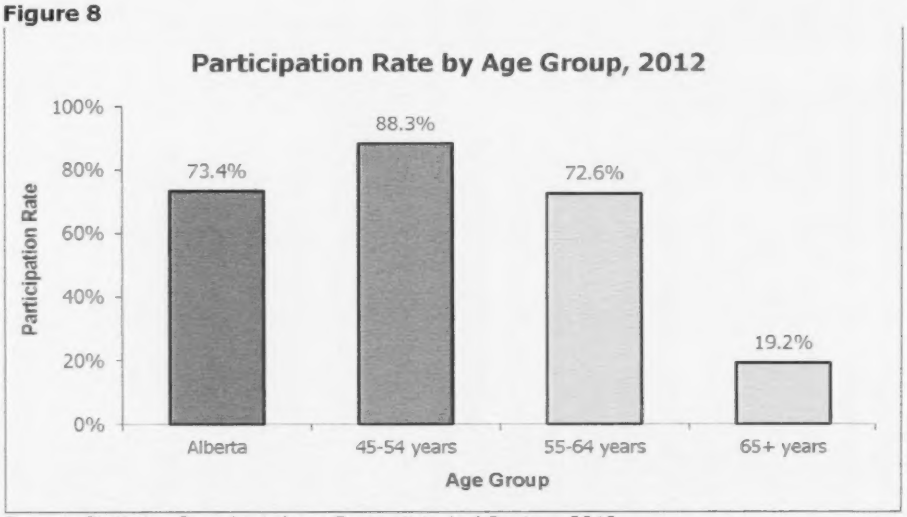
**Figure 7**




Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

The participation rate of Albertans aged 45-54, at 88.3%, was the highest among the three age groups and was 14.9 percentage points higher than the provincial rate (Figure 8).

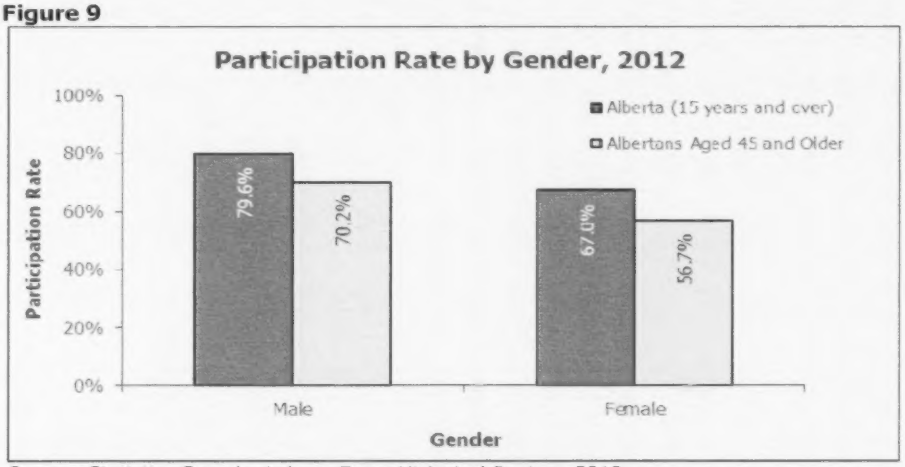
**Figure 8**




Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

For both genders, Albertans aged 45 and older had a lower participation rate than all Albertans (Figure 9). Females aged 45 and older had a participation rate of 56.7%, which was 13.5 percentage points below the rate for males aged 45 and older.

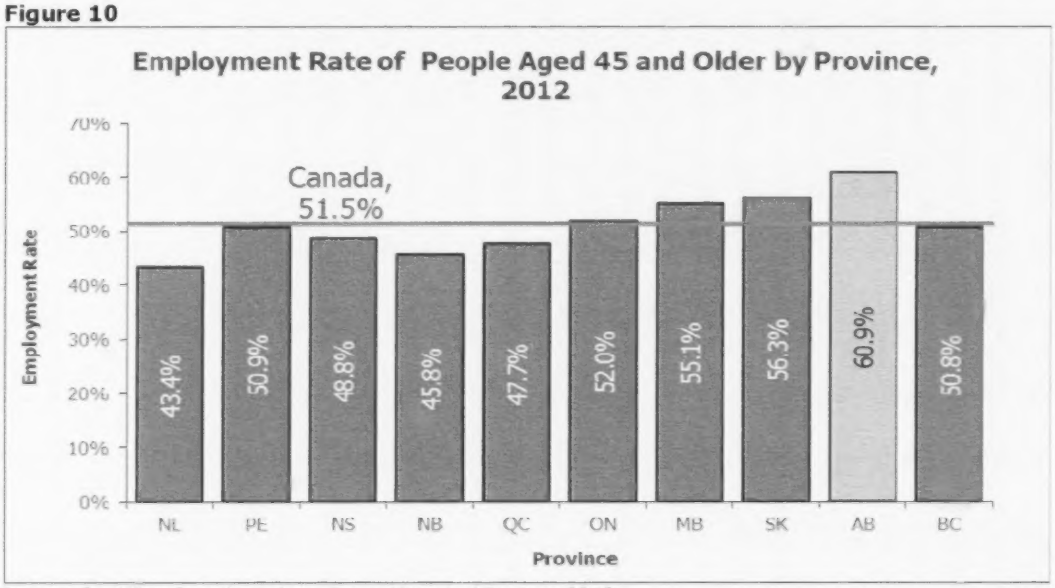
**Figure 9**




Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

In 2012, Albertans aged 45 years and older had the highest employment rate among all provinces at 60.9% (Figure 10). This was 9.4 percentage points higher than the Canadian average for people aged 45 and older.

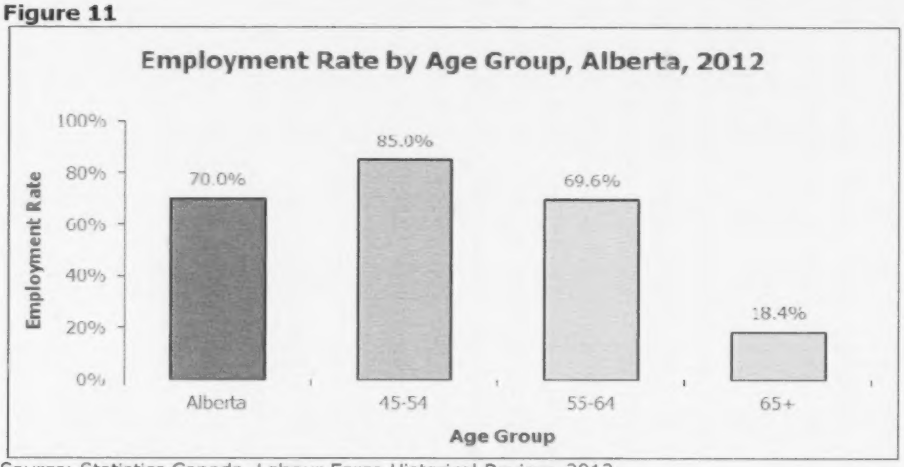
**Figure 10**




Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

In 2012, the employment rate of Albertans aged 45-54 years was the highest among the three age groups and was 15 percentage points higher than the provincial rate (Figure 11).

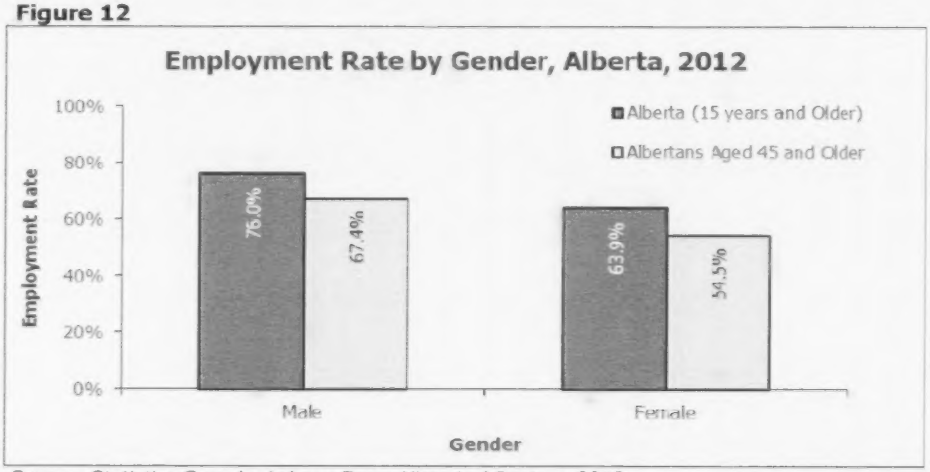
**Figure 11**




Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

The employment rate of females aged 45 and older was 12.9 percentage points lower than their male counterparts and 15.5 percentage points lower than the provincial rate (Figure 12).

**Figure 12**




Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

In 2012, the full-time employment rate was highest among those aged 45-54 (Figure 13). The rate of part-time employment among those aged 65 years and older was more than double the provincial rate.

Approximately one in ten employed workers aged 45-54 worked part-time compared to four in ten for employed workers aged 65 years and over.

**Figure 13**

**Full-time/Part-time Employment by Age Group, Alberta, 2012**

| | Total Employment | Full-time | | Part-time | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Number | % | Number | % |
| Alberta | 2,149,600 | 1,800,000 | 83.7% | 349,600 | 16.3% |
| 45+ years | 848,400 | 715,600 | 84.3% | 132,800 | 15.7% |
| 45-54 years | 472,600 | 417,300 | 88.3% | 55,300 | 11.7% |
| 55-64 years | 301,300 | 253,300 | 84.1% | 48,100 | 16.0% |
| 65+ years | 74,400 | 45,100 | 60.6% | 29,300 | 39.4% |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

Albertans aged 45 and older had a higher proportion of full-time employment than Alberta's working age population, aged 15 years and over (Figure 14). The share of Albertan males aged 45 and older in full-time employment was 91.8% compared to 75.3% for females aged 45 and older.

**Figure 14**

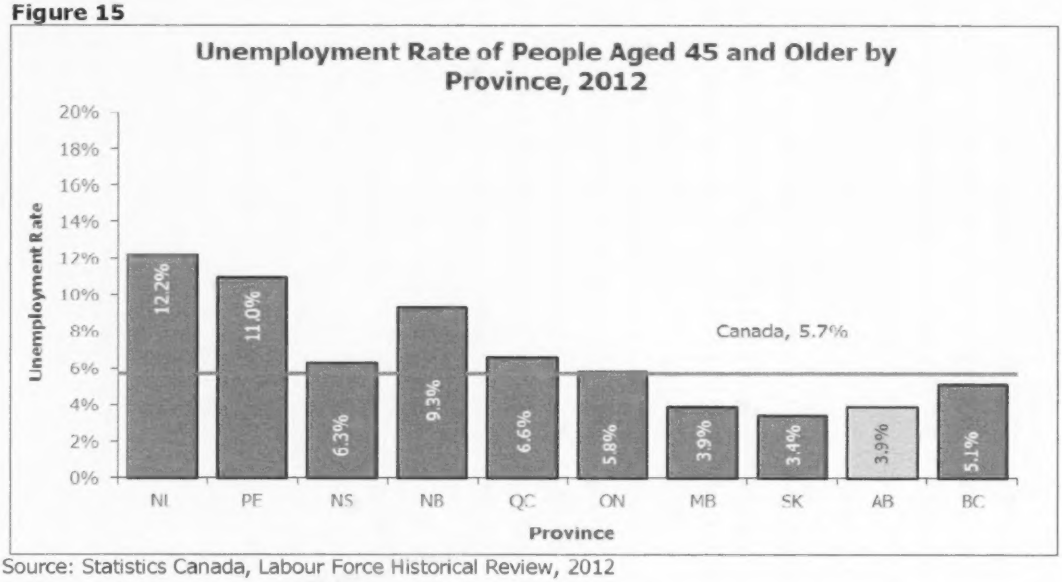
**Full-time/Part-time Employment by Gender, Alberta, 2012**

| | Albertans (45+ years) | | Albertans (15+ Years) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Employment (45+ Years) | % of total | Employment (15+ Years) | % of total |
| **Both Genders** | 848,400 | 100.0% | 2,149,600 | 100.0% |
| Full-time | 715,600 | 84.3% | 1,800,000 | 83.7% |
| Part-time | 132,800 | 15.7% | 349,600 | 16.3% |
| **Male** | 465,600 | 100.0% | 1,186,300 | 100.0% |
| Full-time | 427,500 | 91.8% | 1,085,100 | 91.5% |
| Part-time | 38,200 | 8.2% | 101,200 | 8.5% |
| **Female** | 382,800 | 100.0% | 963,300 | 100.0% |
| Full-time | 288,200 | 75.3% | 714,900 | 74.2% |
| Part-time | 94,600 | 24.7% | 248,400 | 25.8% |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

The unemployment rate of Albertans aged 45 and older was 3.9% in 2012, tied for second lowest in the country with Manitoba, behind Saskatchewan's 3.4% (Figure 15).

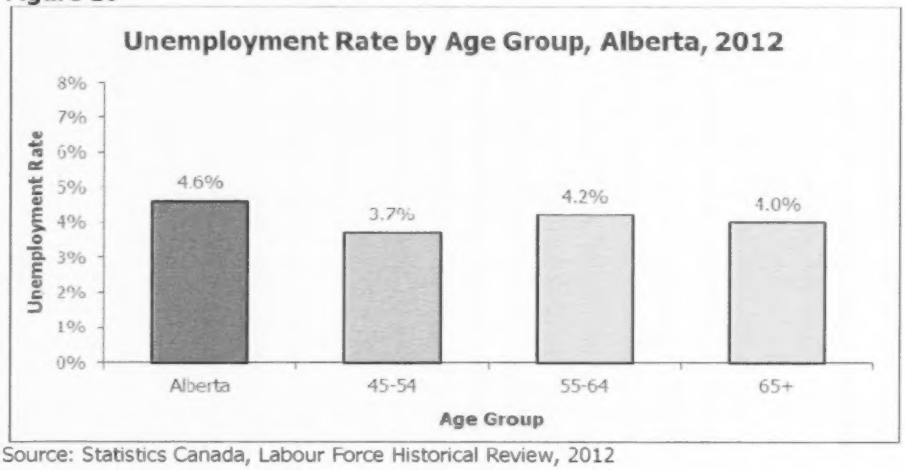
**Figure 15**




Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

The unemployment rates for Albertans aged 45 and older in all age groups were lower than the provincial rate in 2012 (Figure 16).

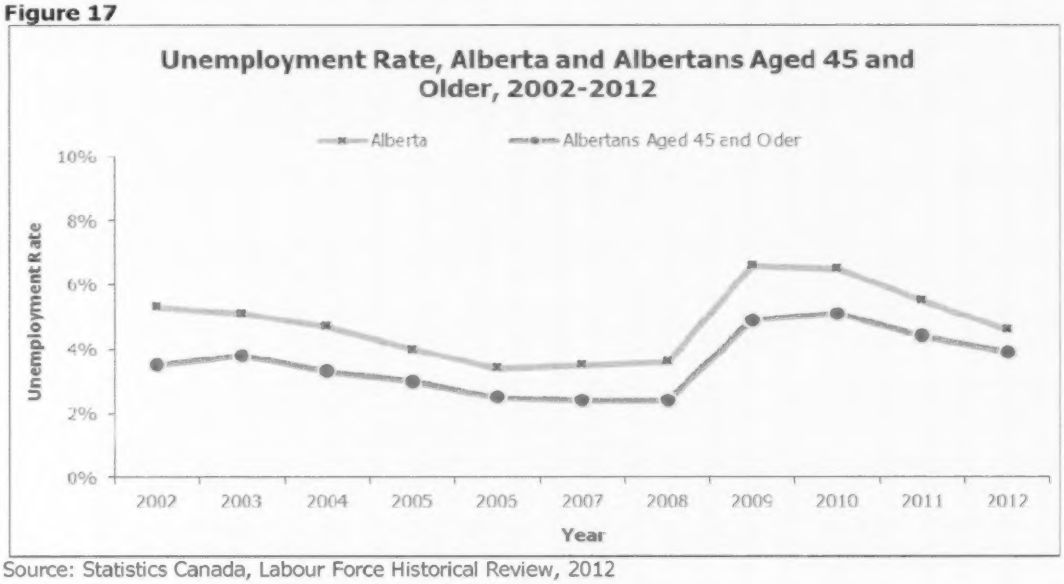
**Figure 16**




Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

Alberta's unemployment rate decreased from 5.5% in 2012 to 4.6% in 2012. (Figure 17). The rate for Albertans aged 45 and older also decreased by 0.5 percentage points to 3.9% in 2012. Over the last ten years, unemployment rate for Albertans aged 45 and older was consistently lower than the provincial rate.

**Figure 17**




Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

## 3. Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Industry

In 2012, 71.8% of Albertans aged 45 and older were employed in the Services-Producing sector while the rest were employed in the Goods-Producing sector (Figure 18). Males accounted for 77.3% of Albertans aged 45 and older who were employed in the Goods-Producing sector and females accounted for 22.7%. In the Services-Producing sector, the male share of employed aged 45 and older was 46.1% and 54.9% were female.

Of the 382,800 employed female Albertans aged 45 and older, 58.7% were employed in the following five main industries: Information Culture and Recreation, Transportation and Warehousing, Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing, Public Administration and Health Care and Social assistance.

The following five industries employed 50.6% of male Albertans aged 45 and older: Construction; Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; and Manufacturing; and Transportation and Warehousing.

**Figure 18**

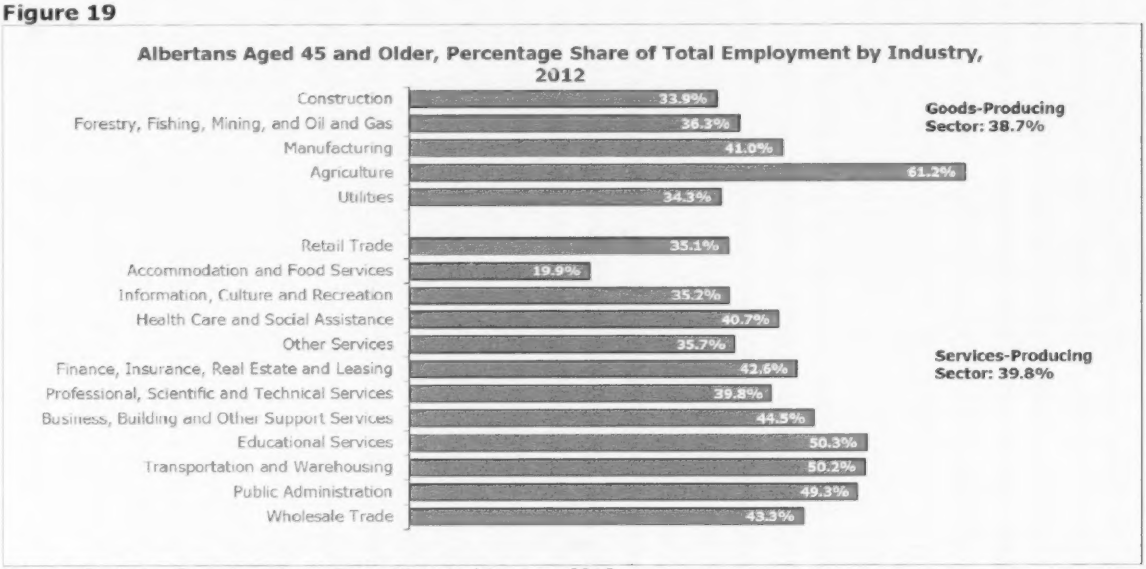
**Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Industry and Gender, 2012**

| | Albertans (45+ years) | Male (45+ years) | Female (45+ years) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Goods-Producing Sector** | **239,500** | **77.3%** | **22.7%** |
| Agriculture | 34,400 | 70.0% | 30.0% |
| Construction | 76,800 | 84.7% | 15.3% |
| Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas | 64,400 | 74.9% | 25.1% |
| Manufacturing | 56,800 | 75.5% | 24.5% |
| Utilities | 7,100 | 68.2% | 31.8% |
| **Services-Producing Sector** | **608,900** | **46.1%** | **53.9%** |
| Accommodation and Food Services | 26,500 | 43.1% | 56.9% |
| Educational Services | 64,800 | 36.0% | 64.0% |
| Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing | 44,200 | 41.9% | 58.1% |
| Health Care and Social Assistance | 92,900 | 16.6% | 83.4% |
| Information, Culture and Recreation | 25,000 | 54.1% | 45.9% |
| Business, Building and Other Support Services | 32,500 | 52.4% | 47.6% |
| Other Services | 38,000 | 53.2% | 46.8% |
| Professional, Scientific and Technical Services | 62,900 | 58.3% | 41.7% |
| Public Administration | 43,700 | 46.5% | 53.5% |
| Retail Trade | 84,300 | 40.8% | 59.2% |
| Transportation and Warehousing | 58,400 | 73.1% | 26.9% |
| Wholesale Trade | 35,700 | 75.5% | 24.5% |
| **Total** | **848,400** | **54.9%** | **45.1%** |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

In 2012, the Agricultural industry had the highest proportion of Albertans aged 45 and older, at 61.2%, followed by Educational Services, at 50.3% (Figure 19). Accommodation and Food Services had the lowest percentage of Albertans aged 45 and older, at 19.9%, followed by Retail Trade, at 35.1%.

**Figure 19**




Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

## 4. Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Occupation

The proportions of employed Albertans aged 45 and older were higher than that of Albertans in the following occupations: Management; Business, finance and administrative; and Unique to primary industry (Figure 20).

**Figure 20**

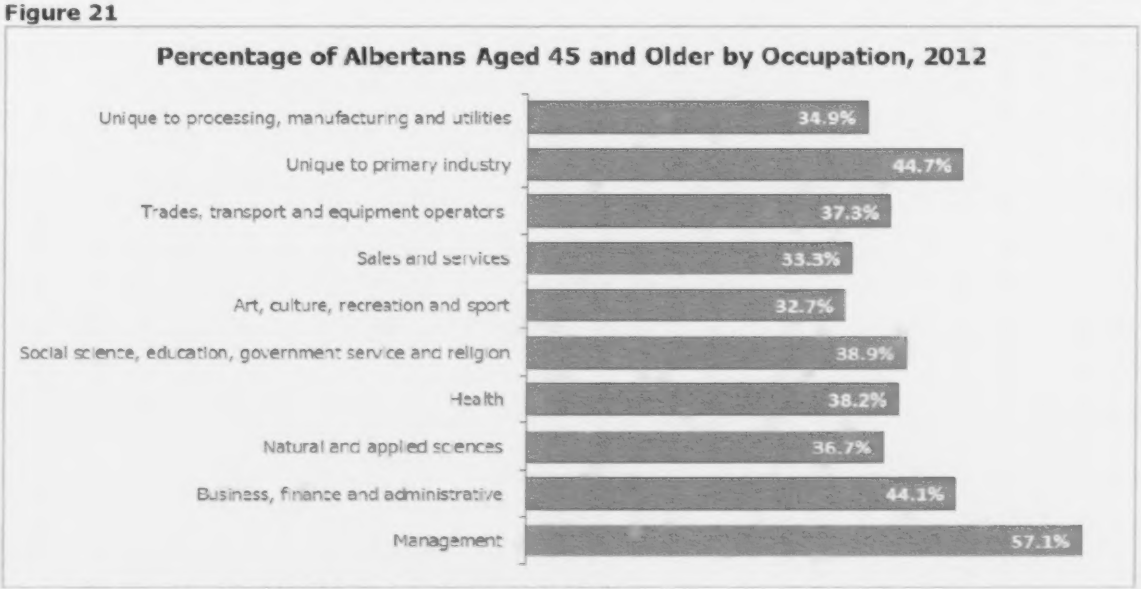
**Distribution of Employed Albertans and Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Occupation, 2012**

| Occupation | Albertans (15+ years) | Albertans (45+ years) |
|---|---|---|
| Management | 7.5% | 10.9% |
| Business, finance and administration | 17.8% | 19.9% |
| Natural and applied sciences | 8.2% | 7.7% |
| Health | 6.2% | 6.0% |
| Social science, education, government and religion | 7.2% | 7.1% |
| Art, culture, recreation and sport | 2.1% | 1.7% |
| Sales and services | 22.5% | 19.0% |
| Trades, transportation and equipment operators | 19.5% | 18.4% |
| Unique to primary industry | 5.8% | 6.6% |
| Unique to processing, manufucturing and utilities | 3.1% | 2.8% |
| **Total** | 100.0% | 100.0% |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

In 2012, Management had the highest percentage of employed people aged 45 and older, at 57.1%. Art, culture, recreation and sport had the lowest, at 32.7% (Figure 21).

**Figure 21**



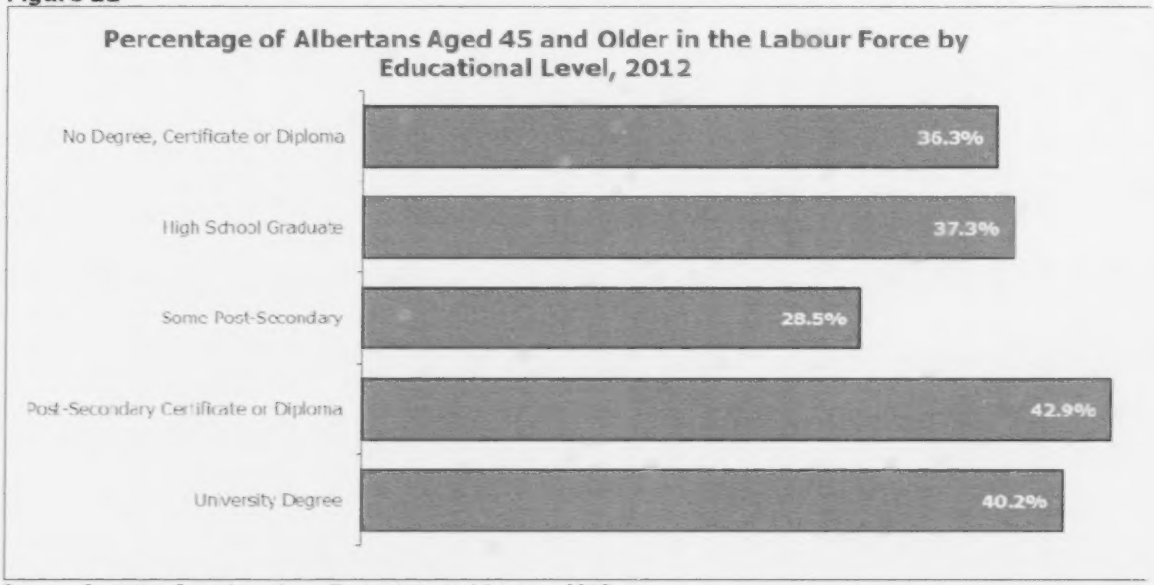

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

## 5. Educational Levels of Alberta's Labour Force Aged 45 and Older

In 2012, Albertans aged 45 and older accounted for 36.3% of Albertans in the labour force who had no degree, certificate or diploma (Figure 22). They also accounted for 42.9% of Albertans with a post-secondary certificate or diploma, and 40.2% of Albertans with a university degree.

Overall, 23.3% of Albertans aged 45 and older had a university degree, compared to 22.7% of Albertans.

**Figure 22**




Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

Between 2002 and 2012, the number of Albertans aged 45 and older in the labour force that had completed high school increased by 81.9% compared to 43.1% for Albertans (Figure 23). Similarly, the number of people aged 45 and older in the labour force that had a university degree increased by 62.9% compared to an increase of 59% for Albertans. Those who had attained a post-secondary certificate or diploma increased by 54.4% compared to an increase of 29.2% for Albertans over the same period of time.

**Figure 23**

| Albertans in the Labour Force by Educational Level, 2002 and 2012 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Educational level** | **Albertans (15+ years)** | | | **Albertans (45+ years)** | | |
| | 2002 | 2012 | Change | 2002 | 2012 | Change |
| No Degree, Certificate or Diploma | 285,500 | 273,400 | -12,100 | 85,000 | 99,300 | 14,300 |
| High School Graduate | 379,700 | 543,400 | 163,700 | 111,400 | 202,600 | 91,200 |
| Some Post-Secondary | 182,500 | 147,700 | -34,800 | 45,700 | 42,100 | -3,600 |
| Post-Secondary Certificate or Diploma | 601,800 | 777,800 | 176,000 | 216,000 | 333,500 | 117,500 |
| University Degree | 321,400 | 511,100 | 189,700 | 126,000 | 205,300 | 79,300 |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

In general, higher educational levels resulted in lower unemployment rates for both age categories (Figure 24). The rates for Albertans aged 45 and older were generally lower than the provincial rates.

**Figure 24**

| Unemployment Rate by Educational Level, 2002 and 2012 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Educational Level** | **2002** | | **2012** | |
| | **Albertans (15+ years)** | **Albertans (45+ years)** | **Albertans (15+ years)** | **Albertans (45+ years)** |
| No Degree, Certificate or Diploma | 10.9% | 5.2% | 9.1% | 4.7% |
| High School Graduate | 4.8% | 2.7% | 4.7% | 4.0% |
| Some Post-Secondary | 6.1% | 4.6% | 6.2% | 5.9% |
| Post-Secondary Certificate or Diploma | 3.9% | 3.4% | 3.5% | 3.6% |
| University Degree | 3.3% | 2.8% | 3.3% | 3.5% |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2012

# Appendix

All definitions are from the Guide to the Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada – Catalogue no. 71-543-GIE.

**Employment Rate**: The number of persons employed expressed as a percentage of working age population (WAP).

**Full-time Employment**: Those persons who usually work 30 hours or more per week at their main or only job.

**Industry**: The general nature of the business carried out by the employer for whom the respondent works (main job only).

**Labour Force**: The labour force is composed of the portion of the WAP who, during the reference week, were employed or unemployed. The reference week is defined as the week containing the 15$^{th}$ day of the month in which information is collected for the Labour Force Survey.

**Occupation**: The kind of work persons 15+ years were doing during the reference week, as determined by the kind of work reported and the description of the most important duties of the job. If the individual did not have a job during the reference week, the data relates to the previous job, if that job was held in the past year.

**Part-time Employment**: Consists of all other persons who usually work less than 30 hours per week.

**Participation Rate**: The total labour force expressed as a percentage of the WAP. This measure represents the proportion of the WAP that is either employed or actively seeking employment.

**Unemployment Rate**: The number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

**Working Age Population**: Those persons 15+ years, except persons living on Indian reserves, inmates of institutions, and full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces.